

COUNTRY	Germany (Soviet Zone)	
TOPIC	Soviet Troops in Halle	25X1
EVALUATION	see below	25X1
DATE OF CONTENT	30 November to 31 December 1951	
	25X1	18 January 1952
		25X1
PAGES	2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)	
REMARKS		
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1. Between 8 and 14 December 1951, the eastern section of the Flak Kaserne, Halle (M 52/D 92)-Woermlitz, was occupied by a guards tank unit of about 150 officers and 600 men with medium tanks and armored reconnaissance cars, and an infantry unit of about 200 men, most of whom were recruits. Several T-34 tanks [redacted] drilled in the billeting area on 21 December. On 23 December, tanks [redacted] which were in excavations, were seen firing with AA machine guns, loaded with blank cartridges, at a biplane which staged low-level attacks at the billeting area. [redacted]

2. From 8 to 12 December, the western section of the Flak Kaserne, Woermlitz, was occupied by about 400 officers and 1,200 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank and artillery insignia and belonging to an SP artillery unit, mortar and AT artillery units. T-34 tanks [redacted] were seen in the billeting area on 21 December. About 1,200 troops assembled in several units at 9:30 a.m., with the officers standing in front of the units. On 25 December, about 50 soldiers were seen drilling with six 57 mm model 43 AT guns, while about 60 soldiers, including 50 recruits, were seen marching out to the training area between Roepzig and Benkendorf. The latter troops wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia and carried rifles. [redacted]

3. In December, [redacted] the units in the Luftnachrichten Kaserne on Heide Allee belonged to the same division as the units in the Flak Kaserne, Woermlitz.

4. The Luftnachrichten Kaserne on Heide Allee was about 75 percent lighted in the evenings between 6 and 31 December. Troops observed in the billeting area wore red-bordered black epaulets, including some with artillery insignia. Some officers observed also wore tank insignia. Soldiers were engaged in drill with 10 x 120-mm

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mortars, rifle marksmanship training and driver training with two SU-85 SP guns and JS tank

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5. On 22 December, the Luftnachrichten Kaserne quartered about 1,500 troops. About 50 soldiers were seen drilling with small arms in the barracks yard, while other troops received field training and practiced firing with rifles and machine guns in the airfield area behind the installation.

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- \* ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Comment. The report indicates that the Flak Kaserne, Moermütz still quarters the components of the 21st Gds Mecz Div previously carried there. These are the 20th Gds Tank Regt, probably in the eastern section; elements of the 19th Gds Hvy Tank SP Regt, the 68th Gds Mecz Regt and the 70th Gds Mecz Regt. These units would total about 6,000 troops.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ The officer strengths specified in the present report appear to be exceedingly high in relation to the III strengths. There have been no indications that the divisions should maintain officer replacement pools.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Comment. The bulk of the components of the 21st Gds Mecz Div are stationed in the Luftnachrichten Kaserne and the adjoining Fliegerhorst.

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